Associated Press Photo

Caroline Kennedy, 9, returns home from vacation in Antigua

Bonn Magazine Runs Uncut Kennedy Story

HAMBURG, Germany, Jan. 9 (UPI)—About 2 million copies of the magazine Der Stern today were en route to West German homes and newsstands, carrying the uncensored serialization of the controversial book "The Death of a President."

The magazine disclosed yesterday it had rejected a last-ditch appeal by Sen. Robert F. Kennedy to remove certain passages from its serialization of the William Manchester book. It said Kennedy complained in a telegram that publication would cause his family "distress."

Der Stern's news editor, Norbert Sakowski, said copies of the magazine today were being shipped to homes and 48,000 newsstands and would go on sale tomorrow morning.

He said if the Kennedy family wanted to stop distribution, "it would be too late now. They would have to sue all 48,000 peddlers in order to stop sales of the edition."

Under German press law, Sakowski said, the only legal action that could be taken against Der Stern would be to prove that statements in the serialization of the Manchester book were false or libelous.

Der Stern, largest magazine in West Germany, paid $72,500 for serialization rights. Look gave Der Stern its serialization of the book before it agreed to delete about 1,600 words found objectionable by Mrs. John F. Kennedy and others in the slain President's family.

Henry Nannen, chief editor of Der Stern, declared the telegram he received from Kennedy said:

"I appeal to you on my behalf and on behalf of Mrs. John F. Kennedy to take all necessary action to conform Der Stern publication of Manchester installments to final Look text. I assure you that there is no material of historical significance in deleted pasages, which relate only to personal matters which would cause distress to Mrs. Kennedy and entire Kennedy family."

EDITOR'S REPLY

Nannen replied, however, "If I were of the opinion that Manchester's portrayal could hurt the feelings of Mrs. Kennedy or her children, Stern would not publish this report.

"Apart from this, I beg you to understand that German readers, who for 12 years experienced a censored press, are very sensitive to interference in the independence of an author.

"Therefore, it appears to be in mine, as well as in your and Mrs. Kennedy's interests, if Stern now publishes the uncut and uncensored version."

Jackie, Children Home

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy was back home today after a two-week vacation on the Caribbean Island of Antigua in the British West Indies.

Accompanied by her children, Caroline, 9, and John, 6, Mrs. Kennedy flew home yesterday with the same privacy and secrecy that had surrounded her holiday.

The family arrived at La Guardia Airport aboard a private turboprop plane and were whisked away by secret servicemen in a four-car convoy to their home at 1020 Park Ave.